The Mental States of Fierce Love and Larger Pain

You must have great faith
to perform small acts. From

your cold room,along-
side those of your
sisters and brothers,you

go forth to spend hours with
bureaucrats,helping there-

by a gravely poor man
get a tankful of oil.

All set
till the next one.

You lose your faith
after much of this and
keep on

through reflex.
Or lose and deepen
your faith at once. No

use speaking of all this human
quantum to others,and your co-
religionists just know.

There are days to hate God
and yourself,lashing both,

despising,too,the coy impotence
of many served.

But not the work. God’s work and if
He doesn’t like it he can go f...

Your mother and father are quizzically
proud but would prefer a granddaughter

to dress in softest pinks and carry
about the linear development.